

## NOTICE

**Municipal Services Committee**  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 25th, 2021 at 5:00 pm

Due to social distancing guidelines this meeting will be conducted via web conference at: [meet.google.com/wje-xuct-mbr](https://meet.google.com/wje-xuct-mbr). The public may also use the teleconference option at +1 (315)-801-9407 then enter conference pin: 863 831 330#

## MINUTES

### 1. Call meeting to order

Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm

### 2. Roll call.

Committee Chair Jim Brook and Gene Lewis were in attendance. Also in attendance were: Amy Wanek, Donna Hammett, Bill Hurtle, Jason Sergeant, Bill Lathrop, Nick Bubolz. Ben Ladick arrived at 5:29pm.

### 3. Civility Reminder

### 4. Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Brooks/Lewis Motion approved 2-0

### 5. Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes as printed from the April 27th, 2021 regular Municipal Services meeting.

Brooks/Lewis approved 2-0

### 6. Citizen appearances other than agenda items.

None

### 7. Review of sanitary sewer billing adjustments. (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)

Renly stated that there would be two larger adjustments that will be brought before the Committee for their approval at June's meeting.

### 8. Director's Report

#### a. Parks and Recreation Report

Renly stated that the Upper Shelter Bathroom is closed for repair. There is a 1" line, and the toilets are direct flush, discovered that when one of the faucets are on and flush the toilet, we lose water pressure. This shouldn't be happening with a 1" line. Renly is going to touch base with Hurst Plumbing, thinking about putting in a 2" line or possibly replacing the toilets. Summer help at the park in the next couple of weeks, the grass is getting high, and there is work going on the ball diamonds. Meeting with owner of Badger Pool to see what options they propose. The pool is losing water at a rate of 8.65 gallons a minute. He had a couple of ideas and Renly

told them his idea which would be very similar to what they would do. If Badger Pool does the work to fix the leaks that were found, the cost would be between \$15,000 and \$20,000. We found some significant holes that were hidden behind the caulking in between the joints, there is one really big one on the back part of the dive well. Badger Pool wouldn't be able to do the repairs until August. Renly's idea is to use butle tape (rubberized tape). We would put the tape on the joints leaking water and then put liquid rubber over it (not sure how tape will react to the chlorine), it is not going to look pretty but it should work. The pool will need to be dry and we will need to remove the paint.

Brooks asked if there were holes that were not fixed last year, Renly stated that the repair last year were not in the dive well only on the upper deck. In the concrete joint spaces, there is a 2 to 3 inches cap and whoever did the caulking years ago put backer rod to fill it in, and use self-leveling caulk, the caulk failed and the backer rod has fallen in and now there are 3" caps and it gets behind there, we're losing a whole seam and its draining water through that concrete slab. Brooks asked why this wasn't fixed last year, Renly stated that it looks like solid caulk. Hurlley asked how it was found this year, our staff started tapping on the caulk joint and they found some hollow spots and found the one big hole. Brooks asked about time for this repair, Renly stated cost is about \$1,500, it would take about 3-4 days to get the materials and a week or two if we were to do this in house.

Badger Pool stated that it should hold through the season. Hurley asked what is happening underneath the pool with all the water leaking. Renly stated that there are several leaks and it's almost impossible to know exactly what is happening or where the water is going. Hurley stated that he is concerned about filling the pool and having it collapse. Brooks asked Bubolz if there is some equipment that we can use to see if there are cavities under the pool. Bubolz stated that is some equipment can be used to determine if it's hollow underneath. There are several companies that can do this. We have also seen a problem with plumbing at other Municipalities, they have the same issues with aging pools. Renly stated that we did check the drain and there was nothing showing a problem with the pipes. Bubolz stated that he could reach out to some of the companies that have the equipment that has the capability to look for the hollow spots. Brooks asked if we wanted to wait for more information. Hurley stated that it is going to cost to have a company to come in to look for the hollow spot, and we have a budget to stay working within. Lewis stated that he has gotten a lot of letters from residents that want to use the pool. Sergeant asked Renly if we will have to grind down to the concrete. Renly stated just where the seams are, Sergeant asked if this would be every seam in the pool, Renly stated just the seams in the dive well. Brooks summarized that we would be spending \$2000 + labor to see if it works while we wait to see if there is a cavity under the pool. Renly will order the supplies and get staff scheduled.

**b. Emergency Action Plan Addition - Load Shedding (Placeholder)**

Nothing new to report.

**c. Water Rate Case**

No discussion

**d. AMI Project (Placeholder)**

Letters went and we received 2 call backs to make appointments. Renly thinks we need to just send out the rest of the letters, so we can get as many done as we can, we will be changing the letter to make it more urgent as time goes on. Brooks stated the he was in contact with Phil Hanson from WPPI, they are wrapping up a Northstar conversion at one utility and finishing the final stages at other, we had asked them to get in touch with us mid-year about scheduling our Northstar conversion at the end of year into first part of 2022, Phil proposed a time line of being in our offices in early September getting data and things set up, then the WPPI team will go away for about 90 days. Sometime in January they will come back and work with our billing team on the conversion to Northstar. For the month of January there will be dual processing, we would be billing in house and WPPI would also be processing billing. The upside is that this gets us on the calendar. It gives us a date to get the water meters changed out, 8 months down the road. Laddick stated that he likes that there will be a dual billing going on. He wanted to know how confident are we that we will get those 271 water meters in by then, the letters have gone out, we will be adjusting the letters to make it more urgent. Renly will reach out to Phil Hanson at WPPI to get us on the schedule.

**(1) Current AMI count remaining- Elec: 0 Water: 271**

**e. Lake Leota Dam Repair Update (Placeholder)**

Renly has been talking to Uriah from the DNR and Todd from Jewel & Assoc., that the historic committee about the concerns about the gabion basket wall of the spillway, the committee would like to see something done where it is not just a concrete wall. We are looking to have a tentative meeting time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June with Renly, Uriah, Todd and Dan from HPC on site to discussed options. Renly had talked to Todd and Uriah, their initial take is that it needs to be concrete with nothing in front of it. They would be open to stamping and adding color it to make it look like stone, we are going to talk about these options.

Renly found out today that FEMA is going to be doing some inspections on the dam, Renly will be filling out paperwork. Brooks asked if Renly and Jason are keeping tracking the cost as it changes up and down. Renly stated that we have \$80,000 from DNR and we have \$150,000 budgeted. FEMA is only going through our process with the dam and making sure that we have everything in order. This has nothing to do with the work that were doing with the dam. Todd told Renly that he estimates that the stamping and coloring will cost \$9000-\$15,000 additional. Currently we have \$203,000 for total cost of repairs. Renly said that we do have some wiggle room, approximately \$25,000 for any unexpected repairs needed. This would take all of the additional funds for the unknown. If anything comes up, we will have to repair it. Brooks asked if the American Rescue Plan would have any additional funds from Storm water that we can use on this project. Renly knows the Storm water was included, but he didn't know if there were any limitations to it. Sergeant and Julie

Roberts sat in on a conference call about the ARP, they have draft rules, that are not finalized yet. Sergeant said from what he took away from the call that we would not receive any money this year, and he didn't feel the dam project would qualify, but it could help with other projects. That could free up money for the dam project later. When the rules are finalized, council will need to prioritize where money needs to go to within the next year.

**f. West Side Park Progress (Placeholder)**

Council approved the contract for the RFP.

Renly discussed with Roger Hunt about his use of the field next to the cemetery for hay, he can use it this year but the City will need to use it the following 2 years for soccer fields, Hunt didn't have any issues with that, the hay field was getting sparse and he was going to have to replant it anyway. Hunt asked if he could come back in 2 years to replant it, requested that if the City had any other land that had hay on if we would let him take the hay off of it, Renly didn't know of any at this time.

**g. Municipal Services building expansion progress report.**

Renly had a couple changes, from the state inspector, because of the type of use of the building that we had. Page 15, first change was just across where the bathrooms are, extending the fire wall across span by the bathroom, and add an additional fire wall between the storage bay and the mechanic's bay. This is going to add to the cost, Sketchworks and 1848 are working on getting a cost on misc. materials back to us, it is still expected to be under out million-dollar budget. The other one was on page 19 of the plans, the southernmost side of building we had to add windows. Brooks asked the project was going to start, Renly stated that we are working on the contract now, it will need to go to Mark Kopp to look at and then to council for final approval.

**h. Dog Park Fence Update**

Renly, because of the last update quote was beyond 30 days we had to go back and get an update cost on materials and it has gone up it will be additional 1,300 more. Renly has an onsite meeting with Segar now that we have approval to go ahead with the project, either this week or next, Segar will order materials once the site review is done. Segar, is booked out until July, Renly thinks it should be done by Mid-August.

**i. Skylift Discussion**

The price for the Skylift is a \$191,000, Renly thinks we have 135,000 - \$140,000 budgeted for this, we are \$60,000 short, company is willing to let us pay the \$60,000 in the next fiscal year. Hurley asked if we ever got an answer on why they didn't honor the contract of the bid. Brooks stated that it wasn't a contract, it was an estimate. Renly said that it was just an estimate for budgeting proposes, and Mark Kopp looked at and agreed. Discussion as to whether we hold off until 2022 or move something else to the next year. It was brought up about not buying a new truck this year. Renly stated that the truck was budgeted for \$47,000 for this year. Hurlley stated that the truck is the likely choice to take off. Lewis stated that we should buy the Skylift and put off buying the new truck, Hurley and Ladick are for buying the

Skylift and push the truck out. Renly to move forward on the Skylift. Renly, Sergeant and Julie will sit down and discuss the numbers.

**j. Evansville W&L Customer Appreciation Event – Sept 10<sup>th</sup>**

Renly stated we have it scheduled on September 10<sup>th</sup>. MEUW is coming with training trailer, which is like the smaller model we had last year. Also Renew Wisconsin is going to put on an EV ride and drive 6-12 EV's that people can either ride or drive. Working with Focus on Energy for a booth, Kona Ice is coming back for the slushies', also brats, and give-a-ways. Renew Wisconsin will be advertising for us too. Hoping for a good show this year.

**9. City Engineer Report**

**a. Sub-division / Development Update**

Brian has a meeting with Dave Olsen, off of Porter Rd. also trying to get a hold of the developer on the Fox side to coordinate, did receive a draft development yesterday for the Dave Olsen side and that is being reviewed.

**b. Inflow and Infiltration Study (Placeholder)**

Waiting on a more severe storm to test out, the storm we just had was not severe enough.

**c. Roadway construction & other project updates. (Placeholder)**

• **First & Second St Projects**

Major water outage, underground pipe and main that no one knew about, water is back on. They have completed the sanitary sewer on Second St from Highland all the way to Old Hwy 92, they going to start the water main on that same stretch, but they are having difficulty getting pipe delivered. We are not the only ones, we are seeing or hearing problems from others on getting pipe delivered as well. We are in discussions with the contractor to jump over to First St, and start installing sanitary sewer. Will have more details after Memorial Day.

• **Sidewalks**

No Action at this time

• **Discussion and possible motion regarding assessments and utility connections for annexed properties.**

Bulbolz stated that he has had some discussion with the property owners at the end of Second St where the City is re-constructing the street utilities. A few parties are interested in annexing into the City. The main questions are regarding the fees, and if they could be added to the assessment so they didn't have to pay a lump sum. There have been questions from 2 parties so far. One was about just hooking up to water for the needs of watering, they would not need the sewer for the time being. The other was about getting water only to wash their dump truck but will not need the sewer. They are working being annexed if they don't meet

the timeline, for the project to be finished, were they are not done in time for it to go on the property tax bill for the 10 year assessment policy, or can they added later and still get the 10 year assessment policy. Sergeant stated that it is to the resident's advantage to annex now while the city is doing the work. Brooks stated that it is to our advantage while the city is doing the work now, otherwise we will have to open the road now. Sergeant stated the project includes the stubbing out of the water and sewer to behind the sidewalk, if they want to connect they just have to dig up their property to hook up so that wouldn't be an issue. Bulbolz was asked to clarify if the stubs being put are being held as a future assessment on that property. Bulbolz stated that it is not. The City will offer this one time incentive to finance the hookup fees by the time the project is done, after that they will have to pay the lump sum. All agreed.

Can we hook up water without sewer, Hammett stated that we have several properties that have water only, no sewer, these are properties that have been long established, and there are no new properties. Sergeant stated that if they annexed in and just wanted water, he is betting that would be possible.

#### **Administrative Staff's Report**

- **Non-Collectable Utility Accounts Review (Placeholder)**  
No Changes at this time, there are 4 unoccupied properties disconnected. Sent Crew out with 59 residential and 5 commercial door knockers, Brooks commented that was down from last month, Hammett agreed and stated that it was busy this afternoon, so hoping the number will be even less.
- **Motion to recommend the approval of the Settler's Grove Subdivision plat.**  
Motion to approve the Settler's Grove Subdivision Plat: Brooks, second Ladick  
Sergeant stated the he doesn't see record that this has been brought before the committee before, Brooks stated they had not seen the plat. This plat was approved by Planning Commission, we have gone over this with department and staff, preliminary approval by Planning Commission subject to a bunch of conditions, that being construction drawings for final approve, and Sergeant wanted MSC to get a look at it. Brooks asked Renly if the easements look good for utilities, Renly looked at it, he only had one question, are the outlets for the bike path going to be private or city. Sergeant stated that they are going to be City.

Motion to approve recommend approval: Motion approved 3-0

#### **10. WPPI**

- a. Amy Wanek – ESR Report  
Evansville Water & Light received first place for the MEUW Safety Award, 15,000 plus hours of worker exposer, and also first place in its category for the APPA Safety Award. We did put out a press release for one of them and are thinking about doing

another one. Brooks sent out the press release for RP3 too. Hurlley would like another one out there.

We have one new residential solar system that was installed during the month and one that was submitted for approval. The solar companies are still going around, and residents are taking advantage of the no money down.

Scholarship night is May 26, 2021, Wanek will be presenting the award to one high school student, and the scholarship is \$1,000. We handed out some coloring contest winner prizes for Rock n' Rollz. The Green Team at EHS didn't win the PSC Energy Innovation Award, Wanek has been in contact with the leader of the team giving them ideas to see how she can help and get students more interested.

Lastly, Wanek got an old report of the High School's HVAC system which is geothermal, that had been saying that this isn't working, the report is 10 years old and we don't know what has been done between then and now. There are some control issues, that won't let the geothermal system do its job. Currently the boiler controls are set up before the geothermal can turn on. Wanek needs to get with a buildings and grounds person to see what has been happening since the report.

Brooks stated that there are two bills at the capitol circulating for finance for 3<sup>rd</sup> party solar, a very real concern. We are working on a response to this bill, they would effectively deregulate electric production in Wisconsin and change the definition of what a utility is, so any one can come into the state and sell solar to residence and avoid regulation of the utility and have access to the grid unfettered. One of the 2 bills said the rates to the utilities would be required to pay for the excess energy. They would have to be robust enough to promote devolvement of new solar systems. We would be required to not pay retail to those roof top systems, but pay a subsidized rate and take energy for our system. WPPI, MEUW, the CO-OP association sprang into actions, and labor trades saw that many of these systems will be built with non-union out of state labor and they organized as well. They want to make the point that solar is here to stay, that utility scale solar is the best way to provide safe and reliable renewable energy. It looks as if both of those bills are going to die before they go to the floor.

Renly talked to the Evansville Ford Dealer, the dealer group is looking to become an EV Certified Deal, at the cost of \$50,000 per dealer, to meet the requirements to sell EV's. Renly let them know about our incentives for the charging stations, they are required to put it three level 3 charging stations at their dealer, 1 inside and 2 outside. Renly will be forwarding Amy's contact information when they decide to move forward. Brooks asked what the other dealerships, WPPI is in 51 communities, might be room for a broader partnership, Renly can reach out and see what other dealerships are in their group. Wanek stated that the incentive has a cap of \$5000, for the level 3 station at the Chevy dealer it was 1500 for each charger. Brooks asked about our public charging station, if it is being used, it averages between 5 and 15 users a month.

## **11. Old Business**

- **Youth Center Update.**

Renly had a meeting with Becky and Susan to go over some things, as well as Julie at AWARE about the air handler, Julie contacted the AWARE director and

they are willing to cover the cost of their own unit. She asked if we could purchase it when we purchase ours and they would reimburse us for it.

- **Flooring** –Looking at a couple of options, RE grid rubber flooring as well as vinyl as well as indoor/outdoor floor. Looking at having HVAC Company come in to look at the duct work, there is a bump out in the floor that needs to be removed and redo some of the duct work there putting in some walk across floor vents. Once the carpet and stuff is ripped out and see what kind of flooring it is and what condition it is in. We can see what we are going to put down and who we are going to have do the work.
- **Air Purifiers**-No discussion
- **Holiday Lights**

The committee has looked into 2 possible choices, one from each supplier, we are waiting for samples to come and then we will meet again. Estimates were between \$14,000 & \$18,000. We need to find out where the money is coming from. We don't have to pay until the end of the year.

Brooks also mentioned that the downtown flowers should be going up Saturday morning.

## 12. New Business

- **Chloride Reduction Program**

Renly said that Cory called to ask a question about water softener replacements. He has an old timer water softener and would like to replace it with a water based high efficacy water softener and was wondering if he purchases it and removed the old one and installed the new one himself would we still reimburse him. Hurtley said he could take a picture of the old one and the new and provide a receipt that should work. Sergeant stated that he would need a permit to install and will need it inspected, as long as they have the building permit, it shouldn't matter who installs it.

Brooks didn't know who has been tasked with keeping the website updated, but we have these incentives for water softeners and other programs, we should be promoting them. Renly stated that once Marisa is back he is going to have as part of her job duties, update the website and Facebook for these kind of things.
- **Discussion regarding the cemetery columbarium.**

Hurtley brought up for discussion the possible purchase of another Columbarium. When we purchase the one we have now we ordered it with ½ single niches and ½ double niches, we have sold all the doubles and have only sold 2 singles. We have ordered 5 more double doors, and can make 5 more double niches. For the future though we need to think about getting another one with all double niches, the cost is \$29,000 which is close to what we paid for the one we have now, which has paid for itself. Brooks asked if the cemetery has its own budget and maybe we need to look at rates again soon. Ladick agreed that we should order another one with double niches only. Hurley stated that we can look at next year's budget.

## 13. Upcoming Meeting Date, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 pm

## **14. Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn Brooks, Ladick second Adjourn at 6:50pm.

James Brooks, Committee Chair

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices before meeting commences. If you have any special accessibility issues, please contact Evansville City Hall at 608-882-2266 prior to the scheduled meeting. Thank you.*